



In the Supreme Court of Iowa

In the Matter of Iowa Court)	
Rule 31.16— Registration of)	Order
House Counsel)	

Chapter 31 of the Iowa Court Rules governs admission of attorneys to the bar. Iowa Court Rule 31.16 governs registration of house counsel. The court rescinds current Rule 31.16 in its entirety and effective immediately adopts in its place the new house counsel rule attached to this order.

The primary purpose of adopting the new rule is to align Iowa's house counsel rule more closely to the ABA Model Rule for Licensing of In-House Counsel. The new rule reorders and rephrases some of the existing requirements for registration of house counsel. The new rule also adds new requirements taken from the ABA Model Rule, including a requirement that in-house counsel comply with Iowa's continuing legal education rules, a rule providing for automatic termination of registration under certain circumstances and a process for reinstatement from such termination, and a rule that expands the legal services registered in-house counsel may provide.

Prior to adoption of the new rule, the court considered feedback from the Association of Corporate Counsel and its Iowa chapter, as well as from the Office of Professional Regulation. The court also solicited public comment on the proposed new rule.

Effective immediately the court rescinds Iowa Court Rule 31.16 and replaces it with a new Rule 31.16 attached to this order.

Dated this 12th day of September, 2012.

THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

By Mark S. Cady
Mark S. Cady, Chief Justice